The COUNTRY JOURNAL: OR, THE CRAFTSMAN. N°. 325

By CALEB D'ANVERS, of GRAY'S-INN, Esq;

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1732.

Continuation of our last.

ATHENS was daily languishing under this unhappy Management, which would have brought certain Ruin upon Her in the End, without the Calamity of the *Peloponnesian War*; for nothing prevented it but the continual Struggles of her *great Men* to supplant one another. This kept Them in some Awe and restrain'd Them from doing all the Mischief, which They had both in their Inclination and Power; so that the Preservation of *Athens*, for some Time, may be said to be owing, in a great Measure, to the short Continuance of Those in the Administration.

But *Cimon*, *Aristides* and *Themistocles*, with several other considerable Men of real Merit and Abilities, who, notwithstanding some Failings, had done their Country very great and eminent Services; these Men, I say, happening to go off the Stage very near one another, left the Field open to PERICLES, who first subverted their Constitution, and then erected to Himself an arbitrary Power, which ended in the Destruction of *Athens*.

He was a Gentleman of a private Fortune, but unmeasurable Ambition, which made him stick at nothing to advance himself in the State. For this Purpose he set out on the Foot of *Liberty*, and courted the Affections of the People, by pretending a Zeal for their Interest upon all Occasions; but when he had once made himself considerable by these Methods, he threw off the Mask and treated them with the utmost Insolence; by Turns betraying all Those, who trusted Him, and knowing no Friendships, or Enmities, but such as favoured or opposed his corrupt Purposes. He gave a very remarkable Instance of This with Regard to *Cimon*, a *noble Athenian* of great Parts and Integrity, but one, whom *Pericles* hated and constantly opposed, for keeping Him under that Subordination, which became his Station and Character. Yet *Cimon* afterwards falling under a Prosecution from the People, He screen'd Him in the publick Assembly, and then made a Bargain with Him, to share the Government between Them; but took an Opportunity to revenge Himself in the Ruin of his Son *Lacedæmonius*, after his Father's Death.

As He was Master of great Volubility of Tongue, with a Knack of speaking plausibly in publick, and had join'd to This a very daring and consummate Assurance; so He knew perfectly well how to improve them to his own Advantage, in supporting any Proposition, right or wrong, as it best suited his present Purpose; for nothing was more common than to see Him in *one Assembly* with great Zeal confuting his own Arguments in a *former one*; and He never scrupled to contradict the most certain Truths, or to assert the most notorious Falshoods, in order to carry his Point, though sure to be discovered a few Hours afterwards, having always an Evasion ready at Hand

But notwithstanding the great Opinion, which he seemed to entertain of his own Eloquence and Cunning, He was convinced They would prove but a very feeble and short liv'd Support to Him, without some better Assistance. He therefore made Use of all his Art and Contrivance, to work Himself into the Administration of the *publick Revenues*; in which He had the good Luck to succeed after the Death of *Aristides*; who, having been long Treasurer of *Greece*, did not leave Money enough behind Him to defray the Expences of his Funeral.—Happy had it been for *Athens*, if *Pericles* had succeeded Him in his noble Qualities, as well as Employment. But his Character was the Reverse of the *good Aristides*, and his Administration one continued Scene of Rapine and Profusion. Thus did He establish his Power on much more lasting Foundation than any of his Predecessors, by applying Himself to the Foibles and Vices of Mankind, which are too often the surest Hold upon Them; for though it is not to be imagined but that many Corruptions had sprung up, during the former Disorders and Weakness of the Government; yet some Remains of the Modesty and Virtue of their Ancestors had hitherto restrain'd the *Athenians* from an open and avow'd Prostitution of their Integrity; but *Pericles*, by the licentious Distribution of *Bribes* and *Bounties* amongst the People, soon extinguish'd all Sentiments of their former Honesty and Love of their Country, which He treated as the most ridiculous Fanaticism; and all the Endeavours of a Few to oppose this Torrent of Iniquity were the publick and standing Jest of his Conversation.

This extravagant and unnatural Flow of the publick Money by Degrees introduc'd that Spirit of *Expence* and *Luxury*, amongst all Ranks of Men, under the mistaken Notion of *Politeness*, which consumed the Estates of the best Families in *Athens*, and soon made Them so necessitous, that forgetting their antient Honours and the Dignity of their Birth, They were not ashamed to become the known Pensioners of *Pericles*, living in as abject a Dependance upon Him, as the meanest of the People.

Thus was *universal Corruption* spread over the whole State; and, to compleat their Misfortune, the *very Money*, which was reserved for the Necessities of War only, was spent in debauching the Minds of the People, and what was design'd for their Preservation, turn'd to their Destruction

As *Pericles* was not qualify'd by his Rank to be of the Assembly of the *Areopagus*; (the great and supreme Judicature of *Athens*;) so to remove every Obstacle to his Ambition, He employ'd all his Art to undermine their Authority, and by Degrees drew all publick Business of Consequence to the *popular Assemblies*; where, by the Assistance of *Bribes*, *Pensions* and *Employments*, which were all at his Disposal, He was secure of carrying every Thing almost without Opposition.

This, together with the scandalous Disrespect, with which *Pericles* affected to treat Them upon all Occasions, and their slavish Submission, at the same Time, to all his Orders, falling in with the general Depravation of the Times, soon brought Them into the lowest Contempt with the People, and destroy'd all Regard for that *antient and august Assembly*, which had for many Ages been the Bulwark and Defence of the Constitution.

After this fatal Blow to a *State*, which made the proudest Boast of its Liberties, and had ever shew'd the greatest Jealousy of any Incroachments upon them, *Pericles* obtain'd almost as absolute and uncontroul'd a Power as the Tyrant *Pysistratus* Himself; which gave Occasion to the calling Him and his Creatures the *new Pysistratides*; for though it is well known that the *Archons* had the Exercise of the regal Power, yet We scarce read of any Thing but their *Names*, during the whole Ministry of *Pericles*; to whom all Applications, both at home and abroad, were constantly made; and He scarce left them the Shadow of Sovereignty.

But in the Height of this Prosperity, He was not a little disturb'd with the Threats of a War from *Sparta*; the Seeds of which, as is before observed, were sown soon after the End of the *Persian War*; and ripened into Action by the monstrous Conduct of *Pericles*, who by Turns provoked their Resentment and courted their Friendship in the most ignominious Manner.

It would be tedious and unnecessary to enlarge upon the particular Differences, which had, from Time to Time, arisen between Them, and increased the Animosities of the two States.

Many Endeavours had been used, to put an End to this uneasy Situation of Affairs; in which both States were under the Inconveniences and Expences of an actual War, though no formal Declaration had been made of one, and the Interruptions the *Athenians* found in their Trade, with the Continuance of very severe Taxes, occasion'd many loud Complaints amongst the People; to quiet which a sort of Cessation was agreed upon for five Years. This however lasted but a very short Time, the old Grudges breaking out again into new Hostilities; in the Pursuit of which both Parties being tired, a Peace was made between Them for thirty Years, though it lasted between five and six Years only, which were chiefly employ'd in forming new Allyances, in order to be prepared for War; each Side being very sensible that the *Articles of the Treaty* were only patch'd up for the present, but were not a sufficient Foundation for a lasting Peace; and accordingly They were very negligently observ'd on both Sides; but it was the Misfortune of *Athens* always to lose Ground by these short Intervals of Truce; for their unhappy Behaviour had irritated many of their Neighbours against Them; and their confederated Subjects took the first Opportunity to chuse *new Protectors* and free Themselves from the grievous Impositions, which the *Athenians* had laid upon Them, under the Pretence of raising Supplies for the War.

Pericles, well foreseeing the fatal Consequences, which an open Rupture with *Sparta* would be to his Affairs, neglected no Endeavours to prevent it; and it is, not improperly, said that the Age of *Negotiations* then began in *Greece*. *Ministers* and *Ambassadors* were seen continually posting not only over all *Greece*, but even in the adjoining Kingdoms of *Macedon*, *Thessaly* and *Thrace*; both Sides endeavouring to engage Them in *new Allyances* in their Favour; and *Pericles* was not ashamed to court the Friendship, even of the *Persians*, to whom he had formerly profess'd so much Enmity and Hatred, by putting the *Ballance of Power* in their Hands.

He did not make a much better Bargain for his Country with some other of their *Allies*, who ow'd their Preservation to Them, and pretended the greatest Friendship for Them; yet being in Hopes of an Addition of Power and Wealth by the Diminution of the Trade of *Athens*, and the Decrease of their naval Strength, in Consequence of it, They very faintly supported the Interests of the *Athenians* and remissly discharged the Obligations of their Allyances.

Pericles, to remedy these growing Mischiefs, endeavoured to gain over to his Interest some of the neighbouring Powers, by the Proposition of certain wild and impracticable Projects; such as joining the Forces of *Athens* to Theirs, and making new Accessions to their Dominions, by altering the Dependencies of some of the lesser Principalities of *Greece*; but this Scheme gain'd Him nothing but Shame and Contempt; so that after much Time and Labour had been spent in these fruitless Negotiations, He had Recourse to the same Methods abroad, which He had found so very successful at home, and backed all his foreign Transactions with the Offers of a round Sum of Money; by which Means He engaged many of the lesser States of *Greece* to lend their Names, at least, to his *new Allyances*, and kept some of the favourite ones in constant Pay, under the Pretence of making good their Expences, in keeping Troops to assist *Athens* upon Occasion, though They never raised one Man more for this Service.

As He could not treat in the same Manner with the *greater Powers*, He made his Application to their *Ministers*, whom He judged by Himself, and endeavour'd that Way to gain Them to his Interest. Most of Them took his Money; and, perhaps, excused Themselves by their Intentions of neither doing Him any Good, nor their Country any Harm; for They only amused Him with Intelligences of pretended Secrets, many Falshoods, and Things of little, or no Consequence.

By this infamous Management, *Athens* was made the common Tributary of all *Greece* and the neighbouring Powers; not only to the great Waste of the publick Treasure; but, what was worse, these mean Condescensions from a *State*, which had for many Ages made so considerable a Figure in that Part of the World, lost Them all their former Authority, and brought *Athens* into the utmost Contempt.

To be concluded in our next.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Hague, Sept. 5, N. S. It is certain, that there is a Treaty concluded between the Courts of *Saxony* and *Bavaria*, for the Maintenance of their respective Rights and Pretensions, which implies a plain Contradiction to the Execution of the *Austrian Pragmatick Sanction*, from which those two Courts have appealed. This cannot but give the Emperor a great deal of Uneasiness; and the more, because his Imperial Majesty well knows from what Quarter this Blow comes, and that every Thing is now conducted in those two Courts by the Compass of the Intrigues of *France*, by whom a Pamphlet was lately published at *Ratisbon*, the Author whereof pretends to prove the most Christian King's Right to several Hereditary Countries of the House of *Austria*, in Case the present Emperor should happen to die without Issue-Male.

We hear by private Letters from *Oran* that, in one of the late Skirmishes between the *Spaniards* and the *Moors*, a *Spanish* Captain of Horse, charging at the Head of his Troop, received a Musquet Ball in his left Breast; upon which he immediately fell from his Horse; when a *young Cadet*, who served in the same Troop, instantly dismounted and bore his wounded Captain out of the Place of Battle, who lived about an Hour after; during which Time the *Cadet* did all in his Power to assist him, and shew'd a most extraordinary Concern; but when he saw him expire, as he did in his Arms, he caught up a Pistol, which lay by him, and, in a sudden Transport of extream Passion, shot himself through the Heart. The *Moors*, after the Battle, found both the Bodies; when, upon Examination, the *young Cadet* was discover'd to be a *Woman*, a beautiful young Creature, and by some Jewels they found in her Bosom, she is thought to be a Lady of Distinction. The Bodies were sent by the *Moors* to the *Spanish* General, who hath order'd them to be embalm'd and convey'd to *Alicant*.——*This was certainly an amorous Affair, and looks more like an Incident in a Romance than an Affair in real Life; it likewise shews that the Moors have some Notions of Honour and Gallantry, or at least of Gratitude to the* Spanish *General for sending back one of the Governor of* Oran's *Mistresses, whom he had taken captive upon his entring that Town.*

HOME NEWS.

Kirkham in Lancashire, Sept. 15. On Tuesday last the Antigua Merchant, of and for Liverpool, Rich. Nichols Master, from Antigua, with Sugar, Rum and Cotton, was broke to Pieces near Rossall; 'tis hoped that most of the Rum and Cotton will be saved, but the Sugar, 'tis presumed, will be all lost; the Men are saved.

From *Paris* we learn that their inteſtine Diviſions ſtill continue, neither the King nor the Parliament ſhewing the leaſt Inclination to give Way; which it is feared will prove fatal to moſt of the glorious Members of that Aſſembly. *Paris* is under the greateſt Conſternation, and if the People there had the Power, they would have the C——l M——r impeach'd, as the only Expedient to ſave themſelves and gain their Point.

Brighthemſton, Sept. 16. Out of the Roſe Galley, Capt. de Eſpana, which was ſtranded laſt Monday at Midnight, three Miles to the Eaſtward of this Place, 402 whole and Pieces of Bags of Wool, and 1080 Bars of Iron, are ſaved, and put into a Malt-houſe, but the Ship is broke into Pieces.

Folkſtone, Sept. 19. The Ship which lately came on Shore here was from Gottenburg, and bound for Lisbon. Of her Cargo, which was Iron, Deals, Maſt and Spars, very little was ſaved, the Country and Towns People having carried off abundance. The Cuſtom-houſe Officers and the Servants to the Lords of the Manor did what they could; but the Country People are on all theſe Occaſions moſt ungovernable and inhumanly cruel to rob the Unfortunate, and at the ſame Time forfeit their Lives. She had 14 Hands and a Boy on board, of whom nine and the Boy were loſt, and five ſaved; among the former was the Maſter, who was ſafe on Shoar, and attempting to ſave his Child, was loſt, and when taken up had him faſt folded in his Arms.

LONDON, September 23.

On Saturday Morning her Majeſty and the Princeſs Caroline, attended by ſeveral Ladies in Waiting, came from Kenſington to the Meuſe and view'd the new Stables, at which her Majeſty expreſs'd her Satisfaction, and was pleaſed to order Money for the Workmen.

The ſame Day his Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales, the Duke, the Princeſs Royal, and the Princeſs Amelia, attended by ſeveral Lords and Ladies of the Court, took the Diverſion of hunting a Stag in the new Park at Richmond; and after a pleaſant Chace of three Hours, the Stag was kill'd: They afterwards dined at Kew, and return'd to Kenſington in the Evening.

Yeſterday Sir THOMAS GROSVENOR, who has been, for ſome Time paſt, in a dangerous Way, and attended by Dr. Beauſort, Dr. Broxham and Dr. Tomlinſon, ſet out for the South of France (being adviſ'd to that Air, by the ſaid Phyſicians, for the Recovery of his Health) and with him Dr. Tomlinſon, who we hear is to attend him during his Stay abroad.

Monday a Board was held at the Admiralty, when Capt. Rycout, late Commander of his Majeſty's Sloop the Swift, received his Commiſſion for the Command of the Tryal, lately launch'd at Deptford, and was ſworn before their Lordſhips, being one of them appointed for the Service of the Iriſh Station, to prevent the Running of Wooll, and all the eight Sloops for that Service are now commiſſion'd.

They write from Cambridge, that Sturbridge-Fair has proved very good this Year, and Plenty of all Sorts of Commodities; Hops were ſold at 7 l. 5 s. per Hundred, and Glouceſter and Warwickſhire Cheeſe at 1 l. 2 s. per Hundred.

We hear that Intereſt has been began to be made at one of the Cinque Ports, againſt the next Election of Members of Parliament, for the Lord Viſcount Middleſex, eldeſt Son and Heir to his Grace the Duke of Dorſet.

A few Days ago came on the Election of Bailiffs for the Borough of Ipſwich for the enſuing Year, when John Marlow and Thomas Starling, Eſqrs. were unanimouſly elected.

William Wollaſton, of Great Finborough in Suffolk, Eſq; has declared to ſtand a Candidate to repreſent the ſaid Borough, in the Room of Col. Negus, deceaſed. And We hear that William Negus, Eſq; only Son of the ſaid Col. Negus, will alſo ſtand a Candidate to repreſent that Borough.

The Houſe, which the Lord Hobart lived in, and alſo two others adjoining to it in German ſtreet, St. James's, are taken for the Reception of his Excellency the Count de Montejo, the Spaniſh Embaſſador, who is now at Calais, and will embark the firſt fair Wind for England. His Excellency is bringing over ſeveral Sets of fine Coach Horſes; and one Set, exceeding beautiful, is a Preſent from the King of Spain to his Majeſty.

On Thurſday Se'nnight his Grace the Duke of Bedford arrived at Portſmouth from Stretham in Surrey, having been four Days going thither. His Grace went immediately on board his Majeſty's Ship the Torrington, Capt. Parry, in which he will ſoon proceed for Lisbon. His Grace ſeems much indiſpoſed.

The Arrival of the Duke of Cumberland and Darby from Eaſt India this Year is doubtful, Ships from thoſe Parts ſeldom coming at ſuch a late Seaſon. It's alſo rumour'd, that ſome one of the outward-bound Ships to Fort St. George this Year, will be ſent from thence to China, to preſerve our Trade in that Country.

Six new Houſes are order'd to be built in the Meuſe at Charing-Croſs for his Majeſty's Equerries, viz. Edmund Charles Bomberg, Eſq; Thomas Panton, Eſq; Couthorpe Clayton, Eſq; the Hon. Henry Berkeley, Eſq; Henry Pulteney, Eſq; and Philip Lloyd, Eſq;

A few Days ago, Mr. Hooper, Coaſt-Waiter, made a Seizure of a large Quantity of Tea, Soap, and Brandy, on board a Veſſel at Briſtol from Neath; and on Thurſday laſt Mr Alpott, Tide Surveyor, made another Seizure of 15 Dozen of Claret, and two Anchors of Brandy, on board a Ship from Galway.

On Sunday Morning between Two and Three o' Clock the Shop of Mr. Ragdall, a Norwich Factor, the Corner of Barge-yard in Buckſersbury, was broke open by ſome Rogues, who cut a Pannel out of the Shutter, and carried away 31 Pieces of Duroy, valued at upwards of 30 l.

Tueſday there was a Court of Aldermen at Guildhall, when Robert Godſchall, Eſq; was ſworn in Alderman of Biſhopſgate Ward; and the Court was pleaſed to order 40 Freedoms to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor and the two Sheriffs, in lieu of the Sale of the Place of Keeper of Newgate.

On Monday Night laſt a Man and his Wife quarrelling, in Farmer's-ſtreet, Radcliff-Highway, the Husband ſwore he would be reveng'd of her, and immediately went and hang'd himſelf.

On Monday will be launched at the Dock at Blackwall, a large new Ship, commanded by Capt. Jenkins, in the Eaſt India Company's Service, which 'tis ſaid will be nam'd the Reward, in Honour to Capt. Jenkins, for the Misfortune he received in his Voyage from the Spaniſh Weſt-Indies ſome Time ago, of the Loſs of one of his Ears.

Wedneſday a General Court of the Eaſt-India Company was held at their Houſe in Leadenhall-ſtreet, in which they came to the following Reſolution, viz. That the Intereſt upon the Company's Bonds ſhould be reduced; upon which ſeveral Debates aroſe, whether to 3, or 3 1 half per Cent. and the Queſtion being put for 3 per Cent. it was agreed to by a Majority of Hands; whereupon a Ballot was demanded: Then the Court adjourn'd to Tueſday next for taking the ſame, and appointed the Day following for declaring the Event thereof.

On Tueſday the 12th Inſt. the Town Plate of 15 l. was run for at Northampton, and won by Mr. Fleetwood's brown Horſe *Merry Batchelor*.

On Wedneſday Mr. Fleetwood's Roan Horſe *Lilliput*, walk'd over the Courſe for the Galloway Plate of the ſame Value. And

On Thurſday the Gentlemen's Contribution Plate of 40 l. was run for by four Horſes; the firſt Heat was won by Mr. Cratcher's Bay Gelding *Caſt-away*, the ſecond by Mr. Wilmer's Grey Gelding, *S'y-Boots*, the third by Mr. Green's brown Horſe *Run now or hunt for ever*, and in running the fourth Heat the Jockeys whipt each other and their Horſes, by which they became diſtanc'd Horſes, and the Plate is to be run for again next Year.

Wedneſday the four Companies of Grenadiers paraded in Bloomsbury Square, and afterwards marched to Tothill-fields, where they performed a fine Exerciſe, and then beſieged the Five Chimnies, which they took without the Loſs of one Man.

On Tueſday Night an empty Collier ran foul on a Merchant-man near the North-fleet Reach, and carried away her Fore-maſt, and broke her Head ſheer off; the Merchant-man was laden, and coming up for London.

Rob. Yeſterday ſe'nnight a Man and his Wife and Child coming from Hampſtead in a Chaiſe, were ſtopt by a Footpad; but the Woman ſcreaming out, three or four Perſons came up, and prevented them being robbed. — On Monday Evening about ſix o'Clock, the Lady Dolin and her Daughter returning in her Chariot from Newington to Hackney, was attacked between Dorlaſton and Church Street by a ſingle Highwayman, well mounted on a black Horſe, with a Rug Great Coat, and the Cape about his Face; upon preſenting his Piſtol, with a Volley of Oaths, they gave him what he wanted, their Money; and he returned back, and committed another Robbery near the Turnpike at Kingſland. A Countryman in the next Field ſtood looking over a Gate over-againſt them, all the Time the Ladies were robbing, but never offer'd to ſtir to their Aſſiſtance.—The ſame Evening about 7 o'Clock, the Enfield Coach coming to Town was ſtopt near the Ironmongers Hoſpital by four Highwaymen, who took about fifty Shillings from the Paſſengers. —— On Monday laſt about Noon, —— Percivall, Eſq; a Member of the Iriſh Houſe of Commons, and Son of the Lord Percivall, with another Gentleman, being in a Chaiſe, were robbed by a ſingle Highwayman in Peckham-lane; from Mr. Percivall he took a Gold Watch, what Money he had, and a Diamond Ring of a conſiderable Value, which laſt he probably had ſaved, but pulling off his Glove to get at his Money, the Rogue diſcovered the Ring, and obliged him to deliver that alſo; from the other Gentleman he took a Watch, and about ten Guineas in Money.

Acc. On Saturday laſt a Fire broke out at Mr. Wilkinſon's, a Porter in Mountague Cloſe near St. Saviour's Southwark. It was occaſioned by a Chimney erected in a back Shop, and convey'd through a Hay Loft, which ſet the Hay on Fire; but by the timely Aſſiſtance of an Engine, and the Help of the Firemen and others, it was extinguiſhed, before any very conſiderable Damage was done. — On Monday laſt a Carpenter at Work upon a Houſe at Iron-Gate, happened to tread upon the Lead that hung too far over the Top, which giving Way he fell to the Ground, and broke his Scull —— A few Days ago Walter Vane, Eſq; an eminent Merchant in Biſhopſgate ſtreet, going over Bow-Bridge for his Houſe at Plaiſtow, had the Misfortune to have one of his Legs broke by a Coach, which threw him from his Horſe, and by the Fall his Shoulder was put out.— Mr. Waldron's Waggon from the City of Wincheſter, coming up to London, about a Mile from the aforeſaid Place, being upon the Side of a Hill, the Fore-Horſe ſtarted at a Flock of Sheep that came running down, and took a-head, by which Means the Waggon was overturn'd with ſeveral Paſſengers, one of whom, an elderly Woman, had the Misfortune to be kill'd by the Fall, another Woman broke her Arm, and ſeveral others were very much bruiſed.

Dead. Tueſday died Mr. Daniel Alford, an eminent Weſt-India Merchant of this City, in the 77th Year of his Age.

Wenſday South Sea Stock was 105. South Sea Annuity 112. Bank 152 1 qr. India 158 1 qr.

PLANTS of the true SCARLET OAK:

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